& Colony That Numbered Millions Only Ten Years Ago - The Slaughter of Wild Pig-Account for Their Extinction-Their Last Great Filght Was in 1870. HOULETTE, Pa , April 3 -Col. Noah Parker of dardeau. McKean county, an old hunter and trapper, has a large collection of mounted apecimens of birds and animals, and among them is one of a bird that is to-day extinot, so far as any one has been able to discover, although it abrunded on this continent not more than ten years ago. Its disappearance oc surred as sudden | v. one might say, as the enuf for out of a candle One day in 1889 these birds were apparently as numerous as they bad been at any time within the recollection of ge one has seen or heard positively anything of them since. This bird was the wild or passenger rigeon, which was the wonder of paturalists from the earliest discovery of America 1: was found nowhere else than in this country, and was often the maintar of the ploneer and backwoodsman and for time out of mind a source of great pleasure ad profit to the aportamus and pot hunter and trapper. It was held by naturalists and obsaving woodsmen that the wild pigeons formed one great colony. This theory seemed haborne out by the fact that sometimes in one part of the country they would cover an gen of woods more than ten miles square for

their nesting and roosting place, while they would not be heard of anywhere else except,

great colony of birds they generally arranged

nest in two or three colonies in different

. I for the common nesting ground

the country, according to the condi-

Proximity to vast beech woods was the cooses for the annual pigeon roosts, and that year was always a favorite resort of the colony. The Alleghan) liver counties were a dense wilderness of pine and hemfock, bordering and inerspersed among which were thousands of eres of herm, thus meeting the requirements trian cares. The last time any part of the mona sought the freets of Western Pennsylman was in 1886. The main body nested per county, and as many in the blean and Apren. The favor is ictic from heighed) and beech woods of this sgion were held by the wild pigeons is shown the regularly with which they visited it. over Luving been a year within the d = d possithere, unless the beech ony itself illied these woods in rear part of the main endows nested in the Indan Terratory. 11, 1889) the great body of the is recount, torticularly after the and little manties. I'a., had been cleared away there, thirty years ago, the signing sought the weeks of Canada and Michibe east my of Western Pennsylvania that walm of to set we as the disappearance of and lored woods that cover much of

or tigo as to the locality, every fruitat year is by sure to be followed by t the birds in greater or The inceding tree is an-When the trees bear the nots full to the ground after the frosts of eases and turied feep beneath succeeding Their soundness and sweetness are wild regeons swarmed to the beech word-to-tenden the nats thus lying from the ce, but at the same " ... mate, so the woodsmen maintained, was the fall by these birds, flocks of uting ergoons visiting the woods for that | ing and breeding place of the mysterious bird. on their flight southward, and guidav the following spring to the localifies where the conditions had been found

dinits inusting place the mating of the birds begin. The cooning of the thousands upon wantle diageous in the roost during the if was the love note of the male. et he invered and world heratone. If Abstraction wasted her, a fight between the that has some to forcew, and it was always a The less in dispute would rereli on I had been a while the fight for her was going at, and she went with the victor. She had no more should be lost or killed steremaned a wislow until the next season a grown garborest a few sticks saline lon fashioned them into a rude nest to the tough of a tree. A tree would somethes and a more than a bundred nests, each who has ges. Thirteen stays was the shand the young bird was fed Ifts limbes or more, for the contribute process this food was Tollar extract by thrusting its beak mto the old pind's crop. At thirteen and the squale would be as fat as a ball its parents. The woods were filled with these comma forming tirds during the nesting time. m the rest, would stumble and singer about like upss men, and would be scooper up by the thousand, cured, and shipped market They were worth \$3 a dozen. A nesting time. Then the mass of birds broke. or and engrated and betook themselves to all parts of the country in isolated flooks that would be seen flying from late in the spring In November they gathered to seeingain and sought a nummon home for

Nettine pigeons was a simple and effective method of capturing the birds by wholesale. A Pacon net was a section of ordinary small mest fish netting nin-ie to cover when hald fint an area of ground sometimes twenty by forty feet in extent. Two stout blokery poles with the butts fastened socurely to the ground were laid harallel elejar feet apart. A strong rope was stretched from the top of one pole to the top of the other end fastened to each. The not was attached by one side of it to the rope midway between the police. Two stiff states were riven in the ground even with the butts of the hickory work out a few feet from them on the These stakes projected above the the term on the sides opposite the tops of When the net was to be set the Letter and his assistant pulled the rope to which the net was fastened back to the two totched stakes. This bent the two hickory poles like bows, in which position they were beld by the rope being passed over the stakes and secured in the notches. This drew the net up into a small compass between the stakes. A tone which, my being pulled by the notter. the stakes extended from the latter off to one aids a few feet to a bough house in which the Asiter was concealed. The ground over Wheat or sait. Wild pigeons were fond their places. According to their own story, the Buskwhest was another luxury two men kept up their work of destruction until to take a little flyer in Wall street."

to them. If the netter was operating before they sickened of it. They loaded themselves the pigeons had settled down to nesting he down with as many of the dead birds as they had a pigeon with a long string tied to its leg. This pigeon he would release from the bough house and it would fir upward only to flutter back to the ground when the end of the string was reached. This would attract the attention of flocks of pigeons flying over, and they would sirele around and come down near the spot, eviit would be blue with pigeous. Then the netthe notenes in the stake. The hickory poles would fly back to their positions like a flash, shooting the net out over the ground covered with the birds, and in a second hundreds of pigeons would be held captive in and beneath the mesher. As many as 1.100 birds have been caught at one netting.

During nesting time a stool pigeon was used to lure the flocks to the snare. This was a pigeon that had been trained for the purpose. Experience showed that no matter how well one of those birds was trained it would never fail to give warning to the wild birds of their danger if it could see them. The stool pigeon was therefore blinded by sewing its eyelals together. This poor bird would be secured on a perch in the rear of the net, near the ground, which was manipulated by a string in the hands of the hidden netter so that this pigeon would be kept fluttering. This would attract the attention of the flying birds, and they would gather trees around and watch the movements of the decoy bird a long time. At last one or two pigeons would venture to fly down to the ground to get closer inspection, then they would find the salt or buckwheat, when the movement of the decoy bird would be forgotten and the pigeons would begin to feed on the balted ground. That would at once bring flock after flock swooping flown, and soon the space would be covered with the greedy birds.

and the net would be sprung as described. In spite of all the destruction that weather, netters, hunters, hawks, crows and other enemies of the wild pigeon worked in a pigeon roost, it was evident that more pigeons would leave the woods when the roost broke up than entered it at the beginning of nesting. In the memorable pigeon year of 1880 pigeons began to arrive in the woods as early as February. and for two weeks there was a ceaseless influx. The snow was still deep, but the pigeons swept down upon it by millions, and by using their wings uncovered the buried beech nuts. Untold thousands of the birds perished from starvation and cold during the first two weeks of the roost. Another large division of the main colony sought feeding grounds in that year in the Indian Territory, and another in the Michigan wilderness, but the roost in Pennsylvania was so much larger than the others, and so easy of access and convenient to market, that the professional netters came from all parts of usual, almost the entire population of the backwoods, including the Indians from the reservations as far as from Cattaraugus county, N. Y., began its onslaught upon the birds, killing them with guns, with clubs, with nets and

traps. They were not content with this

slaughter by day, but kept it up during the

night in the roosts by torchlight. The roost

did not break up until the latter part of April,

yet it was plain to any one that the woods were

their descriptions came by the backwoods- | birds thegan to take their flight than they were when the roost was started. It was estimated that the original roost or pigeon city, as these enormous gatherings of the birds were called, contained 200,000,000 pigeons, which number was naturally increased by 600,000,000 by the pigeons hatched during the stay in the woods. There were perand night during the fifty days that the roost was maintained, slaughtering pigeons and squabs indiscriminately, and if each killed 1,000 birds a day, which is not likely, they would not have reduced the colony by onetwelfth even of its increase while the slaughter was going on. This would not apply to that particular pigeon city alone, the theory that the wild pigeons have become extinct, like the buffalo, by ruthless slaughter will not hold. That theory, moreover, is overthrown by the fact, that on the last appearance Fixe or hombiek forests. The condition of the of the wild pigeon, in 1889, which was in north-through, so the woodsmen maintained, was ern Michigan, the colony was fully as large as it had ever been known in that favorite roost-

> The last appearance of the wild pigeon in any numbers as far east as its old nesting and feeding ground in western Pennsylvania was in 1883. It had deserted its former favorite regions in southern New York and eastern Pennsylvania ten years before that. No wild pigcons, except in isolated flocks in the fall, have been seen east of the Alleghany River since 1870. The last great pigeon roost east of that was in Sullivan county, N. Y., and the adjacent Pennsylvania counties in that year. The writer remembers it well, as he was fortunate enough to be an evewitness of it.

One day in the last week of March, 1870, lumbermen from the headwaters of the Beaworkill and the beech woods of the wilderness of Sullivan, Delaware and Ulster counties, N. Y., brought in the news that those regions had been taken possession of by wild pigeonan untold numbers and that they were preparing for the nesting season. Two days before the sky had been obscured in a great portion of Sullivan county by the passing over of an apparently endless flock of pigeons going northward. The incessant procession gave to the surroundings the sombre appearance that accompanies the gathering and rassing of heavy thunder clouds. It was subsequently learned that the mass of pigeons extended to the eastward more than twelve miles in unbroken line. Hunters, netters and people generally flocked to the great pigeon roost, and it was found that half had not been told of its vastness. The birds had senreely begun their nesting when a severe snewstorm came on Snow fell to the depth of more than a foot althrough that then wild and isolated region. When the snow had ceased falling an unusual "I recall stable to fir for two or three days | and peculiar star was noticed throughout the whole extent of the great reast, and at mean on the lifth day after their coming into the beach woods the aigeous began to take flight, all going due west. In an hour there was not a single live pigeon left in that occulits from one end of the woods to the other,

That same day, at about a quarter of 1 in the afternoon, Clinton Walters and Isaac Bennett, woodehoppers and bark peelers, were in the depths of the Poeono beeen woods, then a tract of forest covering large areas in Pike, Wayne, Luzerne and Monroe counties, Pr. Suddenty It began to grow dark, and a noise like that produced by a gale of wind or the roll of distant thunder broke on their ears. Simultaneouses the woods began to fill with wild pigeous. Presulter tree became burlened with them and still the air was black with an apparently interminable mass of inrushing birds. The pigeons settled in the trees in such numnere that great branches broke beneath their weight, and this occurring constantly on every hand throughout the woods presented the appearance of a windfall in the forest. The two men could not imagine where the pigeons could have come from so suddenly, but when, in course of time, the news of their presence in the Pennsylvania wilderness reached Sullivan county, people there knew that the pigeons were the ones that had been driven out of the Beaverkill country by the snowsform. The nearest point in the Pennsylvania woods where the birds rested after their flight from New York State was forty-five miles from the Beaverkill in a straight line, showing that the pigeons must have flown at least a mile a minute in changing their nesting place.

After the first excitement attending the appearance of this vast colony of wild pigeons had passed, Walters and Bennett began to slaughter the birds. They had no guns, but with long poles they slew the awarming pigeons by the hundred. Every sweep of a

could carry, but left hundreds of dead and wounded on the ground. For the purpose of by the pigeons, Walters and Bennett walked five miles northward through the forest Further than they could see on either side the birds crowded every tree full, and when dently curious to see what was the matter with | the men left the woods they could not see any the captive pigeon. They would not be long evidence that they had got anywhere near the in discovering the baited ground, and then they end of the roost. The dimensions of the pigeon would crowd upon this spot until every inch of city were subsequently defined. It was ten miles long and four wide. The same scenes of ter sprang the net by rulling the rope out of | daily and nightly slaughter of the pigeons by nundreds of people that attended every pigeon roost followed this one. The rigeons remained until their musalon was performed, when they departed, as usual, more numerous than they had come. They moved westward, But once since then has the main colony nested east of the Allegheny River, the great roost of 1880. After that the pigeous kept to the Michigan woods and the woods of the Northwest. They were there in 1880, when have never been seen or heard of since. There was a story that they had been seen flying far out to sea, and, finding no resting place, had perished; but that is, no doubt, a fable. general opinion among woodsmen and naturalists is that the rapid advance of civilization, or, rather, of the sawmill and tannery, upon the forests where the wild pigeon once subsisted in its poculiar way and hatched its young, has destroyed its haunts and driven it to some far country in the great Northwest, where it has either found abundance of food and suitable nesting places, or found none and starved to death. If this theory of a Northwestern migration be correct, the wild pigeon has evidently met the latter fate, for the bird spent its winters in the forests of the South, and it has been unknown in its old haunts there for ten years. PETER AND THE BUCK.

A Circus Performance by a French Cana

"Wan tam I am go wit' Peter Deschamps on Madawaska for hunt deer. Peter was ma ole frien', com' from jus' sam' place wi' me-bout seex day choppin' below Keebeck-an' was erazee for want shoot something. We have pork an' bean an' plaintee 'noder kin' food for eat an' we mak' it de shack close on side Madawaska Reever, w'ere we t'ink she's good ron-way for deer.

'Pete,' I say. You mus' keep it on de mind dat you don't go on de bush wit'out tak' it de gon, dat you shall see som' an-mal, mebbe, for shoot 'Correc',' Pete he say, 'eef I see two-t'ree

some more de au-mais I keel heem, sure." "All sam', nex mornin' w'en he go on de canoe for look round he leev de gon on de bank. Lam tink dat don't mak' so moche difwas de hest man I never know for miss it, sure. Bimeby, he see wan beeg deer swimmin' on de watter de lac. Very h'excite, he reach on bortom of de canoe for tak' up de fusil. Sapre tonnerre! Hees cuss beem de luck an spik many bad word for fin' hees forget eet on de bank. I want tole you dis, dat's very bad l'ing-for de deer. Ba out, She would

wit' heem for shoot. anyway, de deer, so he push de cance harder as he can for try head beem de buck offen de

as he can for try head been de buck offen de lan. De beer an-mal jomp an' idonge, makin to sadash de watter lick' she was boik, wen bimeby. Pete com on hees sade, an' litt heem five, seex, wan douzaine, am on de an-malhees head, while de paddel was broke. Dat was de most best tam for Pete dat he better let heem went; but, by Gor! He don't do dat; hees grab heem de huck au try for push hees mose under de watter for drown.

"Dat was de foolish biz-nesse, be most smartest man wat I never see can t do soche t'ang. I tak meselfde bu is have someting for say hout dat. Eam Pete lin' hesself sure mough de canoe teep up on de watter, an' he was elonge down on de in, an' he spout an' blow de watter offen hees mout fak wan beeg w ale.

"Mongee! I am see de whole t ling form behin de tree were I am stan, an I say to ma mind he shall be drown sure! But wat you link dat leiler do? L'estan! I don't know how he do dat, but we not fook essent, I see he was up de top of de deer hees back on; wit hees bot legs on de straddel lak wan monton an mak it de heeg blat, tut Pete steek on de roe position on tight de horn an' makin de

frien, wit hees eves beeg lak two botato an hees bot cheek red an buige out for twy hold on, can't spik wan leetle word, but group very loud many tam wen de back jomp an jerk neem from offen hees leg.

"Hees roupe wan bondermore de yard,

'Hol' on. Pete: dat deer belong for you!

Holler, Pete: dat deer beiong for you!

Holler, Pete: dat deer beiong for you!

Keen it tight de greep!

But Pete can't spik someting powe totygue
only he mak some from noise on hees
treat, an'try for cass hees mos possibil. I
was mos broke it us for incash on ma anside,
sure enough, for see siche ting.

The leetle ossero was sing de nice charken
on de bush, an'de beulefreg tomble hisself on
de mud by de reever bank: de some was
shine, an'e every ling was mak'd moche
pleasurement on de woed but Pete he got no
tam't all for know som'ning bout all dat. He
got plaintee 'noder hand bix-nesse on hees
han's for holl de deer on de tail. He got folk
de smok'stack on de coar caboose, an wan
tam he most let her go, wen he try for wet
hees ban on de tongue for get more better
green, an' de tauck lerk an'keek up de heels
an rush l'ete very hard on de stomach-liagosh dat mak heem sick for sure; an'he holler
lak socaedam, an shout at I shall rome on de
stantee an get contenn an out de de fool deer
lives head off so dutch, she can.

'I keep from show de laugh on ma fare an'
I say 'You ke'ch de deer; for wit you no
want keel heem yourself? Ink hade been de
him legs an put neem on hees bach.

But he was mos brivout, so i take it up
de gon, an'eomin near on ha guard, I shoot
de buck wan, tree tam on de head. De deer
lad dis way, an l'ete he fall dat way, but pretty
soon he sam'e, an in neer wile loses put hees
lan' on de si mach, an'hees rus heem de leg
an'he say.

"I want tole you wan t'ing, ma frien' Phee.

"I want tole you wan t'ing, ma frien' Phee.

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"I want tole you wan t'ing, ma frien' Phee.

want tole you wan ting, mafricu! Phec-"I want tole you wan ting, mafrier: Theelin, he say. She a no partitude for ketch
berg buck on de tail. I fin dat's plaintee
trouble, on I don't do est som more, not lor
not ing. I know may be messe, an'she hain'r
ronning round on de whide countree ketchin
all de neer wit mahan's. Wall I don't care
me. I am got's bestle de bo-legge holdin' de
buck on de strandele beteen de tree, but da
tam bagosh! I was got mad no! I mak up na
min dat I shall go wit' de buck, or de buck's
tail was go wit' ne, sure."

SWEET ARE THE USES OF GOUT. It Has the Power to Southe the Sorrow of a Man with a Cracked Shoe.

"Every now and then." said a man of moderate means, "semething happens to remind For instance: My shows were wearing out, and in one of them there was an ugly crack in the top. If there is one thing more disturbing to me than another it is the sight of a shoe or one of my own feet with a hole in the top. But had not the money wherewith to but another pair, and, though it may seem ridien lous, I couldn't very well spare the quarte that it would east for a patch, to say nothing of the fact that a patched shoe is but little less unsightly in my eyes than one with a hole in

unsightly in thy eyes than one with a hole in it.

"Walking, in this pedicament, one day, I met a friend, whose nears, so har as I knew, were little. If any, genter than my own. He now had in the tone one of his tringly blacked shoes a carefully our round hole; since I had last seen him he had apparently prospeced enough to have get the goal, a fact on which I ventured to comment.

"Why, he said, you can get precisely the same kind of gout with a pair of shears. And then he sunied; he always was blithe and gay, no matter what belided.

"Web, when I not home I enlarged that crack in the top of my sine to the size and rescuedability of a gout opening; and new, when I go down in the morning on the elevated I don't hold that force with the broken shee curled around under the sear, back of this other

HOW TO TAKE THE TROUT.

THE PERT LATEST WRINKLES IN THE WAY OF TACKLE.

All About the Up-to-Date Rod, Recl. Line and Lure-What They Cost and Which Are the Most Popular with the Out-for-Business Fishermen-Some New Things. The fresh-water fishing season is coming on rapidly and the indications are that the sport will be a ceptionally good in the States where brook rout and black bass are the chief game The winter, which was disastrous to game in many localities, was on the whole favorable for the preservation and growth of the fish. The hatcheries had an especially fry will be turned into the open waters as soon as the time comes for renewing and increasing the supply in the streams. The season opened for trout on Long Island on March 20: in the rest of New York State it will open on April 10. The black bass season does not open until May 30 on Long Island and on May 1 in the

rest of the State. The rod handlers are overhauling their tackle to see if all is well with it. In most cases lines are found to be rotted, flies frayed. rod windings and varnish worn and the other articles in proportionate need of repairs and Added to the old-time ushermen are a considerable number of amateur fishermen. or would-bes, and they are all flocking to the rackle stores in such numbers as to make the clerks complain about their doing the work of three men. From all over the country orders are arriving in New York, which is the centre of trade and manufacture of tackle, for all the conceivable appliances for the capture of fish. Rod makers, line twisters, hook forgers and fly tvers are at work under pressure, this be-The great bulk of the tackle runs to the old

well-tried appliances. Innovations in the way of machines for catching fish such as the snap and-eatch-'em hooks, which take away any of the famed fluesse of the sport do not mee with favor, and the tendency is all toward the lightening and perfection of the simple articles used Complicated books, combination fish rods and cames and tackies the usefulness of which is lost in fanciful or ornamental pat terns do not meet with favor and quickly drop out of sight once they are introduced, or else maintain their sale by their attractiveness to inexperienced people. Very rarely are orders for ornamental rods placed. The best hooks are steel, and german silver continues to be used for rod ferules. Reels are made of aluminum, but they are said to be a part failure in practice. The only advantage ever claimed for them over rubber, brass and german silver reels was that they were lighter. An alloy was necessary and the alloy made the reel as heavy as the one it was intended to supersede. Most manufacturers have either dropped them or given them second place. The one complete innovation is a new spinner made of aluminum. The old spinner is like the bowl of a shallow spoon. The new one is shaped like a four-cornered eigar with both ends cut off, so that it is two inches long. Each edge has a half-inch wing and a treble hook or a tandem on snell. It is hollow and almost floats. It was designed to troll over and along patches of weeds.

No one has invented a hook yet which will not catch on snage, but will hold a fish. There are any amount of snag releasers and some few alleged snag avoiders, but the latter also have a way of keeping clear of the fish jams. which counterbalances their value. The best arrangement so far brought out is one which appeared along the Mississippi. Missouri and other Western rivers. No one knows who invented it. The book is a fly used for bass and trout trolling. It is field on a two-ought hook for Western consumers. The featners are very heavy and are so arranged that the The fishermenidrag them over almost anything fish of Western streams are florce biters and not nibblers like the more fastidious ones of tink dat leiler do? Leafan! I don't know how he do dat, but wen I look scare. I see he was up de top of de deer hees buck on and hold the hook. Fastern trout seem to hees but legs on de strad-del lak! wan monkee on de racer cheral. De deer she leep an light and the fastern waters, and the fastern waters, and the fastern trout seem to and hold the hook. Fastern trout seem to and hold the hook. Fastern trout seem to deen the see to the fast with their mouths shut, and the fastern make would keep the hook out of their way. The files are tied unside down according to the last war will be fastern waters, and the fastern waters, and the come at the bath with the index on the fastern motions, the wings covering the bath. Added to that, they have two sets the bath. Added to that, they have two sets of wings, one at the head the other half way down the body. Some of the lies are colored from red to green an journ-mak. Hees let go de horn wen hees goup on de sam tun lak wat volveall dat; wan journ-mak. Hees let go de horn wen hees goup on de sam tun lak wat volveall dat; wan journ-mak. Hees let go de horn wen hees goup on de sam tun lak wat volveall dat; wan journ-mak. Hees let go de horn wen hees goup on de sam tun lak wat volveall dat; wan journ-mak. Hees let go de horn wen hees goup on de sam tun lak wat volveall dat; wan journ-mak. Hees let go de horn wen hees goup on de sam tun lak wat volveall dat; wan journ-mak. Hees let go de horn wen hees goup on de sam tun lak wat volveall dat; wan journ-mak. Hees let go de horn wen hees goup on de sam tun lak wat volveall dat; wan journ-mak. Hees let go de horn wen hees goup on de sam tun lak wat volveall dat; wan journ-mak. Hees let go de horn wen hees goup on de sam tun lak wat volveall dat; wan journ-mak. Hees let go de horn wen hees goup on de sam tun lak wat volveall dat; wan journ-mak. Hees let go de horn wen hees goup on de sam tun lak wat volveall dat; wan journ-mak. Hees let go de horn wen hees goup on de sam tun lak wat volveall dat; wan journ-mak. Hees let go de hor Eastern waters, and they crush the feathers in

head at the bend of the book and its tail is along the snood. The fluttering flies are all similer in proportion because they keep the wings and legs stread, instead of lying down on the hook as in ordinary flies.

Flies are made waterproof now for the general trade, which is something new. A cement is used instead of silk thread to lay the book to the silk worm gut and the body is dosely wound with silk worm gut, slightly stained to the color of the body. The water does not penetrate the gut and as it is not easily storn by a fishe teeth it is probably an improvements which will last. The only observing the mouth of a fish, but fish drop all flies quickly if not struck and hooked and the gut will involutely in the gut and hooked and the gut will involutely a fishe much difference.

The gut on which the flies are fastened is variously treated to make it invisible in the water. The pure white gut is easily seen at times and so preparations are made to stain it to the color of water; a light blue, or a gray mist color are the common stains. The preparations are makers compley chemists to make dives, glues, variousles and stains for the silks, reds and guts. Does which the crest of the male surjet feathers of natural color are always best but the demand for these is so great that single feathers of which the crest of the male golden pheasant is an example for some flies. Naturally these flies are exceptive. Where

t piece and two or three are used for some flies. Naturally those flies are expensive. Where he smally is less than the demand die has to be used. So many brown backles are used—the linekie is from a rooter's neck—that white hid gray ones have to be died to the proper solor for the chearer flies. Girls make all the lies for the trade and they begin very young to learn the trade. There are few men who can make good flies, but non-do-make good flies, but non-do-make the best condinations from the artistic reint of view, that they are slower. Flies cost from 20 cents of \$2.50 h dozen, for front flies, but a dollar a dozen get as good flies as any amitten needs. The leaders to which the filles are attached are model in various styles and qualifies. The dezen get- as good dies as any amateur needs. The brailers to which the filles are attached are mode in various styles and qualifies. The best are made to stand six, nine and twilve promots null for treat. They have no knots, the strands being lashed together and glued, so that the connections, which are usually the weak route in the leaders, are the strongest. They are twenty-four, forty-eight and severty-two inches long and cost \$2.54 and \$64 adozen. Soliced and tred leaders cost less in proportion to their smallty. The usual tyrice traid is \$1.59 a cozen for three-foot leaders. One can get lenders for 40 certs a gozen, but the leader is one of the most important parts of an outiff, and the exterts examine rand test every inch of their leaders lest a big trout and the kint in it. All leaders are made of mist or blued gut nowadays.

The hooks are either black, blued or incorzed. The black hooks have a kind of enamed on them, the blued and brouzed are the clear metal tempered at a certain heat. The brouzed hooks are most popular now because of their strength and appearance. All firms sell them, but the cheap prouzed hooks are frequently washed instead of tempered. They cost from 60 cents to \$3 a hunored ringed or masked. With shells they cost from 40 cents to \$3 a hunored ringed or masked. With shells they cost from 40 cents to \$3 a hunored ringed or masked. With shells they cost from 40 cents to \$3 a hunored ringed or masked. With shells they cost from 40 cents to \$5 a hunored ringed or masked. With shells they cost from 40 cents of the figh-grade hooks are hand forged.

The selection of a red is the fisherman's chief care. On the rod most of the success so far as the mechanical appliances are concerned decends. Nine-tenths of the men and women seen fishing in fresh-water streams have split bamben rods. There is a difference in bumbon rods.

ambino rols. There is a difference in bum-no rols, indicated by the difference in prices. Far very best front rod that can be made costs \$25 and other solit bamboo rods can be set for St. 10 each.
The SE rod is a rather elaborate affair, but

not an ornament, and everything from the windings to the cane or rubber butts and men suver mountings is there for a pur-and aids to the utility of the tool. One resee and mids to the attility of the tool. One could have it mounted with silver or gold, but it would not be any more useful.

Red makers have tried all the woods that grow, atmest, trying to make an ideal red. Next to bamboo the lancewood rods are the most ropular. The best lancewood it rods ranke in price from \$10 to \$15, and men who have used all kinds of rods, from the less tall to bamboo to a birch or water beech sanding, prefer to have a \$13,50 lancewood than any solit bamboo made. A lancewood than any solit bamboo made. A lancewood than any solit than a split hamboo in some hands, and on the bang of a rod depends a good deal of the rlessure of fishing from the standpoint of a sportsman. The "hang" of a rod is its balance

with the indescribable "feel" added. With the reel attached, the red should balance if rested at the middle of the hand grits. It is too heavy when the fulcrim is advanced beyond the grip toward the thoo the rod. (heap rods are almost invariably/lop heavy.

Various makers favor various special kindle of woods. All make a swent endeavor with lancewood and greenheart rods. Notibwood is a recent tropical addition to rod woods, and same thehermen like it better than the long-tried lancewood.

Reel seats on the rods remain the same, and the buver of a reel has to have the seat filed down to fit the clinching apparatus on the red. The grip is of rubber, selluid or wood, with metal reel bands which serew on the red seat and clomp if fast.

The reals are about the same as ever. Some are a triffel lighter. Others a bit heavier. The principle of a crank which turns a spool once, twice or four times maintains its lead, although there are self-winders on the market, which find favor with fishermen who have acquired the knack of using them. A real costs anywhere from 15 cents to \$20. A \$2i double-action reel satisfies most fishermen. It is male of brass, makel-plated, and has a back sliding click, a click that is under the control of the fisherman.

The best ince for trout costs \$4 a hundred yards, but a good kind costs only \$2. The lines nut out by any good dealer can be depended on as worth the price assed. A good many fishermen use braided lines and cotton lines, but and only sith that has been oiled or waterproofed. All lines have to be dried at the end of each day's fishing if it is desired to preserve their full strength. For this purpose open reels are soil.

With a dozen varieties of files, leaders, rod, reel, line, a dollar landing net and a fish basket and dressed in an old suit of clothes, an old hat and a pair of dollar shees used by long-shoremen. The amateur fisherman can look forward to a couple of weeks of good sport anywhere where there is a stream of fresh water and a few trout in it, especially if he has

CARRIED A HARPOON 36 YEARS. The Inscribed Weapon Found in the Flesh

A few weeks ago Senator Perkins of Callfornia, in alecture before the National Geo-graphic Society of Washington, exhibited a harpoon head which had been found buried in the flesh of a whale caught in Bering Sea. The harpoon, which he denated to the society. bears this inscription:

MONTOGOGO

He said that the first four letters were the mark of the American whaler Montezuma. which was engaged in whaling in Bering five circles represent the number of the boat to which this particular iron was assigned. Taking the latest date, 1854, as the time when the whale was struck, it appears that the animal must have carried it thirty-six years. The harpoon head was found in a whale taken Bering Sea in August, 1890, by the steam whaling bark Beluga. After her whaling experlences in the north the Montezuma was sold to the Government and was sunk in Charleston harbor during the civil war. Senator Perkins added that ever since whaling became on industry it has been the custom for uch whaling firm to have the name of the ves sel stamped on each harpoon. This is done in order to show, it two or more boats from different vessels surround an animal, which of the vessels struck it in case the whale gets away and is afterward found dead.

Dr. William H. Dall, commenting on this inormation in the National Geographic Magazine, refers to the stories of whales that have been struck in Greenland waters and have got away and afterward have been found in Bering Strait with the first from in them, or vice versa. In other words, the whales made the Northeast or Northwest Passage. Capt. P. Herenden of the United States National Museum, commenting on these stories, says

"We know that the ships of the Franklin search expedition approached very near to one another to the east of Banks Land and we know the whale is able to make long journeys beneath the summer ice floes, for they easily see any place where the light shows through the ice which denotes a possible breathing place. I have often heard whales blowing among the ice when I could see no sign of water anywhere."

Capt. Herendeen thinks it very probable that whales do make the passage between the waters around Point Barrow and those around Greenland and Hudson Bay, but he does not Greenland and Hudson Bay, but he does not regard the evidence of the harmoon heads as conclusive, because ships often change ownership or are withdrawn from the service and treir whaling implements are sold and put on beard other ships; and while no second-hand harpoons would be put into use without erasing the marks of the former ship, there is the possibility that they might be given or traded to the Eskimos, and a whale might be struck by a native with a second-hand weapon from which the name of the ship had not been crased, near the scene of its final capture.

which the name of the ship had not been crased, near the seene of its final canture. It is evident, however, that the harmoon head found in the whale captured by the Beliggarnist have been in the animal for a long time, for the shank was eaten away close up to the skin by the action of the salt water. Considerable rubbing was required before the name was revealed.

It is well known that some of the species of wholes range through a very wide as a second of the species of wholes range through a very wide as a second of the species of wholes range through a very wide as a second of the species of wholes range through a very wide as a second of the species of wholes range through a very wide as a second of the species of wholes range through a very wide as a second of the species of wholes range through a very wide as a second of the species of wholes range through a very wide as a second of the species of the

was revealed.

It is well known that some of the species of whales range through a very wide area of the seas. Frof. C. Mobius, in his address in 1804 on the geographical distribution and habits of whales, showed that the genus balaria which is the most serviceable of the whalebone whales of which the best-known species is commonly known as the tireenland whale, seems to live throughout the northern direumbolar seas. In the seventeenth and eighteenth century it was common in the neighborhood of Suttbergen. Since the end of the eighteenth century it has been taken in Davis Strait. Since 1847 it has been captured in Bering Sea and near Kamtchatka. On the west coast of tireenland it descends to only 14 N. lat. It has become so scarce at the present day that very few are now taken. In 1865 any four vessels from Dunder were engaged in the Greenland whaleries, but they caught in. Davis Strait twenty-nine whales, which was much in excess of the record for a number of years previous. In 1867, the two Dundee scenners ledings and Nova Zemida, after while in Greenland waters, did not each an animal and the Eclipse did not even see one. The whaler Active was the only one that secured a catch. The Dundee, Perepheal and Hall whaling fleets are now reduced to less than a dozen vessels, and they say their way only by engaging in seal hunting also.

they pay their way only by engaging in seen hunting also.

Less than forty vessels are now engaged in the New England whilling trade where twenty years ago about 100 reseals were fitted out annually, and in 1846 the number of whaters having from the United States was 722. Our

WEATHER FROGS.

Small Living Barometers Which Are Imported from Germany.

Attached to a glass-sided box seen in a birdtore window was a placard marked " Weather Frogs " Within the box, perched on two long wooden rods, placed lengthwise of it and perches in a bird cage, were a number of the weather frogs themselves. Some just then were brown and one was green. They were little tree frogs of a kind found through Europe, those in the window having been Imported from Germany When full grown these tiny tree frogs may

elittle more than an inch in length. They resting on brown for wood, green it on a leaf; placed in a blue glass jar they will become blue. They may be heard but not seen, so closely in igain. In eaptivity the weather frog is kept in a glass

In eaptivity the weather frog is kept in a glass are or globe, which is evered at the top with a wire screen. Water is put in the bedien of the far, and at a convenient height is placed something for the little frog to jump up on. The weather frog in captivity is fed on flees to summer, and in winter on meal worms; its food must be alive. Weather frogs sell here at retail for twenty conts agrees. Considerable numbers of them are brought to this country. A New York importer of birds and animals has sold within a few days 2,000 of these little tree frogs, out of 5,000 imported. They are sold to dealers in various parts of the country, some of them going from here as far away as San Francisco.



GRIT OF THE BLACK CAT.

ODD THINGS ABOUT THE CREATURE KNOWN AS THE FISHER.

Four Dogs of Assorted Breeds Worsted by Fifteen Pounds of Fight and Muscle-Battle with a Beaver Against Great Odds - The Only Animal to Fight Porcupines.

FREDERICTON, N. B., April 4.-When Arthur Pringle, the veteran guide and hunter, arrived in town yesterday from the headwaters of the Nor-West Miramichi with the proceeds of his winter's trapping, it was plain that he had had a more than usually successful season. His pile consisted of twelve handsome offers, thirty-two sables, fourteen mink, twenty-three exes and seventeen lynxes and wildcats. In addition to these there were three fine specimens of the black cat or fisher.
"Fishers," said Pringle, "used to be far

more plentiful in this province than they are now, and it was the easiest thing in the world to trap them. Now they're suspicious and fight shy of the bait. They seem to be forever on the move, and cover a big scope of country in their travels. Still, they seem to have regular hunting grounds on which they appear every fortnight or three weeks. You will find them here to-day and fifteen or twenty miles away to-morrow. I came upon the track of a fisher last winter that had lost most of one foot in a trap, making it easy to distinguish his trail in the snow from that of any other fisher. This was in the Nor-West country on one of the spurs of Little Bald Mountain. I was travelling about due north over my line, which ran about forty miles in that direction to within a rabbit tump of the old county line. I made the trip in two days, and next morning struck the trail of old hop-and-go-fetch-it within twenty rods of the camp. I don't know where else he had been, but he had certainly made forty miles of northing in a little more than two days.

"There are two or three queer points about the black cat. In the first place, I'd like to know why he is called a fisher. He never does any fishing. Then, again, why is he classed as bebuilt more on the lines of a lear in front and a fox behind, only nature made a smoother job of it at both ends. Another thing I'd like to know is, where does he get his speed? black cat is a heavy set, short-legged animal, but he can run so fast you'd think a fox or sable was standing still. He will not average more than fifteen pounds in weight, and I should think twenty pounds would be the outside limit. His color varies all the way from a good old-fashioned brindle to nearly jet black, The darker the fur the more it will fetch. The cubs are just about the shade of one of these here Freewill pienie doughnuts. A good prime fisher skin will bring from \$8 to \$11.

"The fisher rambles around so much that his domestic affairs are in a shockingly bad shape. His home is usually a hollow log, a hole under a root or a crevice in the rocks similar to that of the pine marten or sable. The cubs are born in May or June. I never came across a she fisher with more than two kittens, but I guess, like the marten, they sometimes have three or four. But talk about your fighters! There is nothing of his weight or anywhere near it that has any business with the black eat. He is not much more than half the size of the lyex or bob eat, but neither of these is in lieve he can hold his own with as many does as you can find from here to Pokosk. I wouldn't have believed it if I hadn't seen it

My old trapping partner, Henry Braithwaits, once chased a fisher with a fexhound, a buil terrier, a bengle and a thoroughbred mongrel that belonged to Jack Gibson of Maryssport. The black can had crossed his trail of store morning, and fleary thought all be had to do was set the house or his track and there ever overtook the cut if would be a question of the color was would follow the hear till about the black. When the does overhoused he in a recent took change in the late of the black, when the does overhoused him and he took retake in the fronk of a holow had see the come into the black, when the does overhoused him and he took retake in the fronk of a house in the took retake in the fronk of a house in the holo when we arrived, has howing the hole when we arrived the hole when we arrived the thole when we arrived the hole when we arrived the hole when we arrived his trail to see that it didn't even in the horse to make a non-rot that car library told me rot make a mean of that a floary told me rot make a mean of that a floary told me to stand he had a home color in the trail to the work was the search of the lock them and the house and the whole were to the floar the work was the whole was any discovere to him and they were ward in the ward was the whole was any discovered to him and they were ward and the grant or even more than they were ward in the grant or even more than they were ward in the grant or even more than they were ward in the grant or even more than they were ward in the grant or even more than they were ward in the grant or even more than they were ward in the grant or even more than they were ward in the grant or even more than they were ward to the trail of the grant or even more than they were ward to the trail of the properties of the floar was a broad of the grant or even more than they were ward to the trail of the grant or even more than they were ward to the trail of the grant or even more than they were ward to the trail of the grant or even more than they were ward t ville. He asked me to come along and see the the morning, and licary thought all he had to

with a quill in its hide, but have often found the skin of a idack ent so full of quills as to be almost worthless. But the quills do not seem to penetrate the flesh of a black cut as they will another animal. They must no through the hide and then turn sideways, lying in layers between the meat and the skin. The cat doesn't appear to mind them.

Sirewid as the fisher is, he is liable, like most carniverane animals and birds, to lose his head when in the actor setzing or carrying away his prey. I one saw a black ent come to grief in a most surprising way. I had a tray set for bank beaver on Benous, lake, and as the water was deep I placed the trap on the open bank, well covered with mess and heather, where the beavers were in the habit of strolling about in the afternoon. I had come up the lake very quietly in my caroe, and a rivived just in time to witness a strange scene. On the bank two old beavers and a kitten were grawing the bark from a popular trae, while overhead, his lithe form flattened on the limb of a leaning sprace and his beight eyes gleaming. A fisher water while the does not the limb of a leaning sprace and his beight eyes gleaming. A fisher water while the old of so with safety. Soon, however, one hig beaver dropped late the water while the other rambed offar few vards in the lashes. This was the fisher's opportunity, Liken flash he shot from the bough, buried his teeth in the neck of the young heaver, and squang for the shelter of the trees, Quick as his movements were, the mother beaver, having heard the squalling of the kirten, was now in hot pursuit. The fisher however, carried his prey with ease and would soon have distanced the beaver, when the unexpected happened. As he leaped over a dead root he landed fair in the laws of my beaver trap. Talk about your scriminges. The old she beaver, her eyes allane with rage, was on him in a jilly anothe digit and moss few like chalf from a threshing floer. Handicapped as he was with his leg crushed in the trap, the fisher like between the single of t for a scrap with me! Upon my word, I think I'd have let him go if I hada't been afraid."

COCKS, DOGS AND MEN FOUGHT. A Night at a Brooklyn Dive Which the

Police Allow to Exist. "Cockfighting and dogfighting are generally supposed to have ceased in the city of New York," said the Brooklyn man, "although every once in a while we hear of a raid on a

pit like the one at Silver Lake. Staten'lsland. the other day. The efforts of the agents of the humane societies have certainly resulted in accomplishing much in this direction and I know from personal experience that if you intimate to the police that game cocks or dogs are being almost nightly pitted against each other in their precincts, you will only be laughed at for your pains. "Nevertheless in Brooklyn on the outskirts of a fashionable residence district there is a

cockpit, where three times a week all the year round, matches between dogs and gamecocks are brought off. This place is in the back room of a saloon, and its existence is well known to the police. I know this, because I informed them once myself and a little after that the matter was reported to them by a United States internal revenue officer, who stumbled across it in a queer way. This officer was after an illicit distillery and he traced a small keg of

across it in a queer way. This officer was after an illicit distillery and he traced a small kez of liquor to this place. He didn't know but he could learn something about the still in this saloon, so he went in there one night and after making friends with some of the customers of the place, was invited to attend a coefficht, in the rear room. He was so disausted by the spectacle that he went to the police and made a complaint. His expectacie that he went to the police and made a complaint. His expectacie was similar to mine—he was langued at.

"My knowledge of the place came through a client whom I' defended in an action for assent. He was grateful to be for getting him out of a serabe, and showed his gratitude by telling me to come down his way some night and he'd give me a good time. I went because I was interested in studying his associates, whom he referred to as the gang.

"Well, he took me to this place and after introlacing me to the gang, asked me to come into the back room and see some fun. I went he sale found some afty non-seated around a cocket. In a lew minutes they brought a pair of birds in fact on the saurs and put then acannot each other. The result was a fairly of birds in fact on the saurs and put then acannot each other, The result was a fairly of terrife legacity, which cannot not see some but I was resolved to see the eventure of the was pecked out and a stee sour driven through its brain. The spectacle disgusted me, but I keep my seat until they brought in a couple of builders. I witnessed the bornians of the logs were hereally terrify each of the facility of the fight was cooked to see the eventure of the facility as the result and any according the seater and any according the color of the saure for the fight of the distribution of the training of the large and a continuous and the color of the light was cooked to see the referred when my late dient owned at a stage for the large had a side of the large and a continuous as and the own until the light was cooked to the frequency of the